

MEDFORD HIGH, CRATER CONTEND FOR DISTRICT 4A PENNANT

Court Fives Vie Tonight, Saturday

This is a week end of decision or near decision throughout Oregon for prep basketball teams who aspire for and still are in the running for berths in state high school basketball tournaments.

On the local scene attention of high school cage followers will be focused tonight on Central Point and Saturday night on Medford where the Crater high Comets and Medford Black Tornado collide. Victor in the two-out of three series will get the District 4A bid to the big school tournament at Eugene.

Junior varsities provide preliminary action for the titular games at 6:45 p.m. Varsity attractions, the big ones, start about 8:15 p.m. If the two clubs divide tonight and Saturday, there will be Monday night action on a neutral floor.

Tornado Favored
Medford, favored strongly in the play-off and rated No. 1 in coaches and sportswriters polls for Oregon, will be shooting for its second state tournament trip in three years. The Tornado went in 1953 and bowed out after three games.

Crater, with actually nothing to lose and the most to gain in the play-off so far as prestige and honor is concerned, has never entered a state basketball tournament. The Comets, nevertheless, have been on the threshold numerous times. They are sub-district champions for the fourth consecutive year. Last year the Comets missed the tourney by one game when they lost the third tilt in a two-out of three series with Grants Pass.

Medford won two straight from Crater in 1953 in the district play-off.

The Black Tornado of Medford has indicated it is all set to go all-out this week end against the Comets. Coach Frank Roelandt said that the Tornado gang always wants to play Crater and figures that in the district series is the best place to meet the Central Point school. They are not thinking of losses to Crater or Central Point teams in former years but have their minds on the opportunities of the present.

Starters for Medford tonight are expected to be Bud Kastner, Glenn Peterson, Jerry Kalapus, Frank Rector and Larry Coppel. For Crater the opening five is Jim Higinbotham, Bob Gray, Fred Hogue, Harvey Tonn and Vern Parent.

Crater will yield some but not great height advantage to Medford. Peterson and Kalapus are 6-4½ and Gray and Higinbotham 6-3.

GIARDELLO SIGNED

Chicago—(U.P.)—Joey Giardello of Philadelphia has been signed to meet Al Andrews of Superior, Wis., in a return 10-round bout in the Chicago Stadium, March 23. Giardello outpointed Andrews in their first meeting on January 26.



BIG FOUR CHAMPS AIM FOR TOURNAY SPOT—Members of the Medford high basketball crew, Oregon's No. 1 rated contingent, will be out to clear the last hurdle in the way of a state Class A tournament berth when they oppose the Crater high Comets this week end for the District 4A championship. Medford won the Southern Oregon Conference Big Four banner. The Black Tornado and Comets meet at Central Point tonight and here on Saturday. Medford squad is, left to right, front row, Manager Jerry Couch, Bob Tisdell, Frank Rector, Larry Coppel, Bud Kastner, Ed Reinking, Lloyd Cearley, and Ed McCullough and from left, back row, Manager Don Gray, Warren Deakins, Johnny Foust, Bill Cochran, Glenn Peterson, Jerry Kalapus, Dick McLaughlin and Coach Frank Roelandt. (Landis-Shangle photo)

4 Unanimous Choices for ND Star Five

Corvallis—(U.P.)—One player from each of the five Northern Division schools was named today on the 1955 all-star team selected by the coaches and announced by PCC Commissioner Victor O. Schmidt.

The team includes four seniors and one junior with Wade (Swede) Halbrook of Oregon State and Ron Bennink of Washington State unanimous choices for the second straight year. Dean Parsons of Washington also was named for the second straight year.

Rounding out the first five were Jim Loscutt of Oregon and Cliff Melton of Idaho. Parsons and Loscutt were unanimous choices this year. All but Halbrook are seniors.

Second team: Jay Dean, Oregon State, F.; Tony Vlastelica, Oregon State, F.; Bill Rehder, WSC, C.; Ron Robins, Oregon State, G.; Jay Buhler, Idaho, G.

Fisherman Sees Pole Skyborne Going East

Eros, La.—(U.P.)—Fisherman Clark Fuller lost his fishing pole and a nice catch of fish to a thief when he left them lying on a bank as he set out more lines upstream.

Fuller returned to find a hawk tangled in the line devouring his catch.

The hawk set its claws fast and took off. The last time Fuller saw his fishing pole it was skyborne in an easterly direction.

SPORTS

Swede Problem For Bruins In Scuffles With Beavers

Corvallis, Ore.—(U.P.)—The problem of bottling up the expert shot-making of seven-foot, three-inch Wade (Swede) Halbrook of Oregon State faced powerful UCLA in the opening game of the Pacific Coast conference playoffs tonight.

Lady Docker Claimant To World Marble Title

Castleford, England—(U.P.)—Fun-loving Lady Docker won a marble shooting world championship last night while kneeling on a gold satin cushion so she would not dirty her \$1000 peacock blue ballgown studded with diamonds and emeralds.

She drove to this Yorkshire factory town just below the Scottish border in her gold plated Daimler limousine and took on 10 factory girls wearing frilly dresses for the occasion. She won seven matches, drew one and lost two.

Her victory was proclaimed a world championship by the hundreds who had flocked into Castleford for the charity match because there had never been anything like it. She confirmed it by trouncing Pauline Phillips 17-year-old laundry worker, in a playoff.

Walt Dropto To Forget About Power Walloping

Tampa, Fla.—(U.P.)—Big Walt Dropto is going to forget about the long ball this season and concentrate in driving in runs.

Noted as a power hitter, although he batted only four out of the park last season while with Detroit, the new Chicago White Sox first baseman figured today that he would be more valuable to the club by going for singles and doubles.

"After all," he reasoned, "I'm going to have a lot of men on the bases when I go up to the plate this season and that's a lot different than it was at Detroit. With the Tigers I had to go for the long ball because we had so few runners on but I know it will be different with the White Sox."

Knickerbockers, Royals Tighten Grips in NBA

By UNITED PRESS
The New York Knickerbockers and the Rochester Royals took tighter grips on third place in the Eastern and Western divisions, respectively, of the National Basketball association today.

The Knicks moved two full games in front of the idle Philadelphia Warriors in the battle for the last playoff spot by cruising to an easy 103-89 triumph over the Milwaukee Hawks, while the Royals moved comfortably ahead of the Hawks by downing the Minneapolis Lakers, 83-76.

In the only other game played the Syracuse Nationals defeated the Fort Wayne Pistons, 83-81.

BASSETT SETS FIGHT

Paris, France—(U.P.)—Percey Bassett of Philadelphia, "interim" featherweight champion while title holder Sandy Saddler of New York was in the Army, has signed to meet Seraphan Ferrer, the French lightweight champion, in a 10-round bout at the Palais des Sports April 4.

tonight and here on Saturday. Medford squad is, left to right, front row, Manager Jerry Couch, Bob Tisdell, Frank Rector, Larry Coppel, Bud Kastner, Ed Reinking, Lloyd Cearley, and Ed McCullough and from left, back row, Manager Don Gray, Warren Deakins, Johnny Foust, Bill Cochran, Glenn Peterson, Jerry Kalapus, Dick McLaughlin and Coach Frank Roelandt. (Landis-Shangle photo)

Rogue River, Pointers in Grade Finale

Central Point—Its Central Point against Rogue River Saturday night in the finals of the Jackson county grade school basketball tourney. The tournament for graders in high school districts is being conducted at the junior high court here.

There will be no games tonight because of the Crater-Medford high play-off game at the Crater gym.

Central Point last night defeated Gold Hill 55 to 16 and Rogue River drew a bye through the semi-final round. In another scuffle Phoenix won a consolation final berth by beating Butte Falls 42 to 23. Phoenix will play Talent on Saturday. Talent got a bye last night.

Final at 8 p.m.
Consolation game tomorrow will be at 6 p.m. St. Mary's of Medford and Sams Valley will scrap at 7 p.m. for third place. Championship game will be at 8 p.m.

Central Point was on top 23 to 16 at the half last night. Wayne Allen scored 14 and Jerome McQuade eight for the winners. Huntly got 12 for Gold Hill.

Phoenix led Butte Falls 23 to 12 at halftime. Ed Ellis got 14 for Butte Falls and Korth and Floyd each 10 for Phoenix.

Romans Leader At Baton Rouge

Baton Rouge, La.—(U.P.)—A heavy field set out today to catch leader Walter Romans in the \$12,500 Baton Rouge Open and it was still anybody's tournament with 20 pros four strokes or less off the pace.

Romans, on his vacation from the Baltimore, Md., Country Club, turned in superb putting Thursday to birdie eight of the last nine holes and take a one stroke lead on the field of 65.

One stroke off the pace at 66 were Bud Holscher, Apple Valley, Calif., Paul McGuire, Wichita, Kan., and Marty Furgol, Lemont, Ill.

HUSKIES CHOICE

Eugene—(U.P.)—Washington was a heavy favorite to win the Northern Division swimming title here today and tomorrow.



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W. Halbrook On All-Coast Hoop Crew

By HAL WOOD

San Francisco—(U.P.)—A quintet of men who average six feet, nine inches in height today was named on the 1955 United Press All-Pacific Coast team.

It took the stars of five teams to produce that amazing altitude record—with the shortest man being Johnny Moore, the veteran UCLA sharpshooter who led his team to the Southern division Pacific Coast conference crown. Moore is practically a midget on the squad at six feet, five inches.

The others on the club, picked by coaches and sports writers, are Bill Russell of the nation's No. 1 University of San Francisco team; Wade (Swede) Halbrook of the Oregon State club that walked away with the Northern division PCC crown; Ken Sears of Santa Clara and Bob McKeen of California.

Second team—Morris Taft, UCLA; K. C. Jones, USC; Jim Loscutt, Oregon; Ron Tomlin, Stanford; Ron Bennink, Washington State.

Third team—Anthony Vlastelica, Oregon State; Dean Parsons, Washington; Roy Irvin, Southern California; Dick Welsh, Southern California; Jerry Mulen, USC.

Little Hope for Martin To Return to NY Yanks In Forthcoming Season

Fort Carson, Colo.—(U.P.)—Billy Martin, New York Yankee second baseman now sweating out his final year of military service, apparently has no hope of playing with the American League club this season.

Early this week, a Fort Carson public information officer told United Press that with accumulated leave, and an early discharge, Martin ought to be free to join the Yankees before mid-summer.

But Martin then said he didn't intend to report to the Yankees until his actual discharge. He hoped this would be in July, because the Army is now discharging draftees as much as three months ahead of schedule.

But Lt. Charles L. Snyder, the public information officer, said Wednesday that Martin's record had been checked and he could not expect discharge before Oct. 6.

Beavers Schedule Multnomah Use

Portland—(U.P.)—The Portland Beavers of the Pacific Coast League will move from ancient Vaughn Street park to Multnomah Stadium next year and may use the 30,000-seat stadium this year, it was reported today.

Joe Ziegler, new general manager of the Beavers, commented that it "means moving from the worst ball park in the country to what promises to be the best."

A decision on whether the move will be made this season is likely next week.

TEAMS CERTIFIED

Kansas City, Mo.—(U.P.)—Seven more teams were certified today for the annual National Intercollegiate Basketball tournament, which starts here Monday. Latest to be named for the 32-team event were Loyola of Los Angeles, Regis of Denver, Geneva of Beaver Falls, Pa., Evansville of Indiana, Whitworth of Spokane, Wash., Mississippi Southern, and Atlantic Christian of Wilson, N.C.

Talent, Malin Open B Title Play Tonight

Talent—Talent high school's basketball team, seeking its second straight B tournament trip, headed this morning for the District 5 play-off at Klamath Falls and Coach George Bray reported that the Bulldogs are the strongest physically that they have been since early in the season.

Malin, Klamath county tourney winner and Talent, Jackson County B League titlist, tangle tonight and Saturday night in the Klamath union high gym in the first two games of a two-out-of-three play-off. A third game if needed will be on Monday at Southern Oregon college in Ashland.

The Bulldogs left here about 9 a.m. and had a 30-minute shooting practice this noon at the Klamath court. Aim was to familiarize themselves with the surroundings as well as loosen up. Talent did not work out at home yesterday.

Bray reported that 10 players would be in uniform for the Malin series. Forwards will be Jack Barrett, George Zickefoose, Ray Weinhold and Mel Wallace. Centers will be Jim McAbee and Harold Bartol and Gary Combs and guards will be J. Lloyd Wood, Gordy Thoreson, Bob Hoffman and Freddie Helm.

The coach reported that the Bulldogs have recuperated from injuries and illness and are in their best shape since Barrett injured his knee on December 15 in a game with Phoenix. Barrett has been back for only the most recent tilts but his knee is

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